

1 State of Arkansas  
2 91st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2017  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 536

5 By: Senator E. Cheatham  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO REQUIRE CERTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ELECT  
9 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS BY ZONE; AND FOR  
10 OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

## Subtitle

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13 TO REQUIRE CERTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO  
14 ELECT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
15 BY ZONE.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-13-630(a), concerning the election of  
22 school board members, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1)(A) The board of directors of ~~any a~~ school district that has an  
24 average daily membership of fewer than two thousand (2,000) students shall  
25 ~~have the authority to~~ may provide by resolution adopted by a majority vote  
26 that a portion of the board members shall be elected by zone, at large, or a  
27 combination thereof.

28 (B)(i) The board of directors of a school district that  
29 has an average daily membership of two thousand (2,000) or more students  
30 shall be elected from:

31 (a) Five (5) or seven (7) single-member zones;

32 or

33 (b) Five (5) single-member zones and two (2)

34 at large.

35 (ii) A board of directors under subdivision  
36 (a)(1)(B)(i) of this section that elects its members at large shall adopt a



1 resolution by a majority vote to determine which method under subdivision  
2 (a)(1)(B)(i) of this section the members of the board of directors shall be  
3 elected.

4 (2) After the board of directors adopts a resolution under this  
5 section to elect members of the board of directors by single-member zones,  
6 the county election commission of the county in which the largest portion of  
7 the school district lies shall establish, within the school district,  
8 boundaries for the election of members of the board of directors:

9 (A) That shall have substantially equal population based  
10 on the most recent available census information; and

11 (B) From which racial minorities may be represented on the  
12 board of directors in proportions reflected in the school district population  
13 as a whole.

14 (3)(A) A candidate for a position to be elected by zones shall  
15 reside in the zone.

16 (B) A member of the board of directors who is qualified to  
17 serve the zone he or she represents may succeed himself or herself when the  
18 board of directors converts from being elected at large to being elected by a  
19 method under subdivision (a)(1)(B)(i) of this section.

20 ~~(3)~~(4) The names of the candidates for at-large board positions  
21 under subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section shall appear upon the ballots  
22 throughout the school district.

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